

KIDMUNITY | God's Word, My Life

Lesson 07: Listening for God's Voice

Small Group Guide

Bottom Line:

I can hear God's voice by reading His Word.

Memory Verse:

My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. John 10:27

Activity One: Tuning In to God's Voice

Introduction for Leaders

This activity helps kids recognize that not every message they hear comes from God. Just like tuning a radio, we have to filter out the noise and "lock in" on His truth. By testing each statement against the Bible, kids will learn that Scripture is the standard that helps us know God's voice.

Supplies Needed

- 10 printed "Voice Cards" (see list below)
- Bibles for each group or pair of kids

Voice Cards

VOICE	TRUTH/LIE	VERSE
"God wants you to forgive others, even when it's hard."	✔ Truth	Colossians 3:13 – <i>"Forgive as the Lord forgave you."</i>
"If you read your Bible enough, God will love you more."	✘ Lie	Ephesians 2:8-9 – <i>"It is by grace you have been saved... not by works, so that no one can boast."</i>
"You are God's masterpiece, made for good things."	✔ Truth	Ephesians 2:10 – <i>"For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works."</i>
"You can always talk to God through prayer."	✔ Truth	Philippians 4:6 – <i>"In every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your</i>

		<i>requests to God.</i>
"God only loves you when you do the right thing."	✗ Lie	Romans 5:8 – "But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us."
"You should always put yourself first."	✗ Lie	Philippians 2:3-4 – "Do nothing out of selfish ambition... value others above yourselves."
"God can't use you until you're older."	✗ Lie	1 Timothy 4:12 – "Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example."
"God's Word can guide you when you're confused."	✓ Truth	Psalms 119:105 – "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."
"You'll never be good enough for God."	✗ Lie	Romans 8:1 – "There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus."
"When you're afraid, you can trust that God is with you."	✓ Truth	Joshua 1:9 – "Be strong and courageous... the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go."

Activity Instructions

- Shuffle the voice cards and lay them out face down.
- Invite a child to pick one card and read it aloud.
- Ask: "Does this sound like something God would say, or does it sound like static?"
- Have the group look up the Bible verse listed on the card.
- Read the verse together and decide: does it confirm or correct the statement?
- Continue until all cards have been read and discussed.

Teaching Connection

"God's voice always agrees with His Word. The more we read the Bible, the easier it becomes to recognize what's true and what's just noise. If a thought or message doesn't match what God has already said in Scripture, then we know it's not His voice."

Activity Two: The Shepherd's Call

Introduction for Leaders

This activity helps kids experience what it's like to listen for one clear voice among many distractions. Just like the sheep know their shepherd's voice, we can learn to recognize God's voice when we spend time with Him.

Supplies Needed

- Painter's tape (to create a path on the floor)
- 2–3 simple obstacles (chairs, ottomans, cones, etc.)
- Blindfold (optional for older kids)

Activity Instructions

1. Set the Scene:

- a. Use painter's tape to create a short path that winds around the room or through a few obstacles.
- b. Place chairs or ottomans in the way to make it interesting but safe to navigate.

2. Choose Roles:

- a. One child is the Shepherd.
- b. One child is the Sheep.
- c. Everyone else is a Distracting Voice.

3. Get Ready:

- a. The Shepherd stands at the far end of the path.
- b. The Sheep starts at the beginning. You can blindfold the Sheep (for older kids) or have them close their eyes if they feel comfortable.
- c. The Distracting Voices spread out on the sides of the path. Their job is to call out and make noise – giving wrong directions like:
 - i. “Go left!”
 - ii. “No, go backward!”
 - iii. “Stop! Turn around!”
 - iv. “This way!”

4. The Challenge:

- a. The Shepherd calls out clear directions (“Take three steps forward,” “Turn right,” “Careful, step over the chair”) to guide the Sheep safely along the path.
- b. The Sheep must listen carefully and follow only the Shepherd's voice through all the distractions.

5. Switch Roles:

- a. After each round, choose a new Shepherd and Sheep so several kids get a turn to experience both roles.

Teaching Connection

“Jesus said, ‘My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me.’

There are so many voices in our world – friends, media, opinions, and even our own thoughts. But when we spend time with God, we learn to recognize His voice above all the noise.

Just like the Sheep in our game, the more you listen for the Shepherd, the easier it becomes to tell which voice is His.”

Reflection

- “What made it hard to hear the Shepherd?”
 - “What helped you stay focused on the right voice?”
 - “How is this like listening for God in your life?”
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Discussion Questions

Kinder / 1st Grade

- What do you think God’s voice sounds like?
- How can you listen to God this week?
- What do you think helps us hear God’s voice better?

2nd / 3rd Grade

- Why do you think it’s hard to tell God’s voice apart from other voices sometimes?
- What are some ways God speaks to you?
- How can reading your Bible help you recognize God’s voice more easily?

4th / 5th Grade

- What are some “voices” or messages that compete for your attention each day?
- How can you tell the difference between your thoughts, other people’s opinions, and God’s truth?
- What does it look like in your life to follow the Shepherd’s voice?